

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord
Congregation: Thanks be to God!
Closing Hymn, *As with Gladness Men of Old*..... LBW #82
Postlude

Pastor: Steven Bang
Organist/Pianist: Janet Vinson
Usher: Wendell Finer
Acolyte: Paris Reimann
Lectionary: Lanette Branstad

Announcements

Today

7 p.m. Youth Group

Tuesday, January 12

7 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, January 13

3 p.m. Confirmation Class

7 p.m. Church Council

Saturday, January 16

5:30 p.m. Couples Club will meet at Shooterz, Forest City

Next Sunday, January 17

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10:15 a.m. Fellowship

11 a.m. Worship Service

Noon—Potluck dinner

1 p.m. Annual Meeting

7 p.m. Youth Group

Treasurer's books need to be turned in to Rita Schutter/Julie Reimann for audit prior to January 17 annual meeting.

Our sympathy to the family of Spencer Lauritsen, 31, who passed away.

Prayer List—Kylie Holst, Marlas Reimann, Barb Miller, Angela Haugen, Marlys Haugen, Mike Haack, Roger Peterson, Dale Zingg, Dorothy Kall, Ben Charlson, Monte Branstad, Blanche Durby, Eldora Reil. All prayer requests can be submitted to: www.westprairiechurch.com/prayer; leave message on church answering system @641-567-3733; or called in to Pastor Steve @ 641-581-2868.

Baptism of Our Lord

1st Sunday after the Epiphany

11 a.m., January 10, 2016

West Prairie Lutheran Church, LCMC

Pastor Steve Bang

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting

Please stand if you are able.

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 77

Opening Praise Hymns, *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* LBW #305

Kyrie page 78

Hymn of Praise, *Glory to God in the Highest* page 79

Prayer of the Day

All: **Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, You proclaimed Him Your Beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

You may be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 43:1-7

Israel Redeemed

But now, thus says the LORD, your Creator, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you.

"For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place. Since you are precious in My sight, *since* you are honored and I love you, I will give *other* men in your place and *other* peoples in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, 'Give *them* up!' And to the south, 'Do not hold *them* back.' Bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the ends of the earth, everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made."

Psalm 29 (responsively)

L: Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,

C: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

L: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;

C: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

L: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;

C: the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

L: The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;

C: the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

L: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;

C: the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

L: He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

C: and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

L: The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;

C: the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

L: The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe

C: and strips the forests bare.

L: And in the temple of the Lord

C: all are crying, "Glory!"

L: The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;

C: the Lord sits enthroned as King forevermore.

L: The Lord shall give strength to His people;

C: the Lord shall give His people the blessing of peace.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 6:1-11

Believers Are Dead to Sin, Alive to God

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin.

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all;

but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia page 83

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 3:15-22

Response: Glory to You, O Lord..... page 83

Now while the people were in a state of expectation and all were wondering in their hearts about John, as to whether he was the Christ, John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people. But when Herod the tetrarch was reprimanded by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the wicked things which Herod had done, Herod also added this to them all: he locked John up in prison.

Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

Response: Praise to You, O Christ page 83
You may be seated.

SERMON: Pastor Steve Bang

"The Baptism of Jesus " Luke 3:15-22

Hymn, When Christ's Appearing Was Made Known LBW #85
Please stand.

Apostles' Creed page 85

Prayer

Sharing of the Peace.

You may be seated.

Offering

Please stand.

Offertory, Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God page 96

Prayer page 96

The Lord's Prayer page 97

Benediction page 97

SERMON NOTES

“The Baptism of Jesus” - Luke 3:15-22

1. “When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was _____ too... And as He was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my _____, whom I love; with You I am well pleased.” (Luke 3:21,22)
2. Jesus’ _____ was the first public declaration of Jesus’ ministry.
3. Why was Jesus baptized? To join us in our _____, helpless, pitiful condition.
4. “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the _____ of God.” (II Cor. 5:21)
5. The first thing John encourages us to do in preparing for Christ is to show _____ over our sin.
6. We could come to church not because we want to hear God’s _____, but out of some sense of obligation to family or tradition.
7. God hates sin so much that it caused him to destroy the world with a _____. Sin will move God to destroy the world again but this time with a _____.
8. How shall we view our sin? With serious _____.
9. Living a life that is pleasing to God means being _____ to His Word.
10. God does not forgive because we are sorry for our sins; He forgives because Jesus _____ for us, as our substitute.
11. Jesus has not only won forgiveness, he has promised to give us the gift of the _____.
12. The Holy Spirit helps us recognize our sinfulness, _____ of our sins, rejoice in our salvation and be _____ in our hearts day by day.

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